
Transportation and Communications Committee

February 2, 2006

Action Minutes

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE. AN AUDIOCASSETTE TAPE OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.

The Transportation and Communications Committee held its meeting at the SCAG office in downtown Los Angeles. The meeting was called to order by the Honorable Harry Baldwin, Chair, City of San Gabriel. There was a quorum.

Members Present

Aldinger, Jim	City of Manhattan Beach
Baldwin, Harry	City of San Gabriel
Beauman, John	City of Brea
Bone, Lou	City of Tustin
Brown, Art	City of Buena Park
Burke, Yvonne	City of Los Angeles
Daniels, Gene	City of Paramount
Dixon, Richard	City of Lake Forrest
Flickinger, Bonnie	City of Moreno Valley
Garcia, Lee Ann	City of Grand Terrace
Gurule, Frank	City of Cudahy
Herrera, Carol	City of Diamond Bar
Joffe, Enid	San Gabriel Valley COG
Lowenthal, Bonnie	City of Long Beach
Marshall, Patsy	City of Buena Park
Mikels, Judy	Ventura County
Millhouse, Keith	City of Moorpark
Moqet, Shenna	Riverside, WRCOG
Ovitt, Gary	San Bernardino County
Ridgeway, Tod	City of Newport Beach
Rutherford, Mark	City of Westlake Village
Spence, David	Arroyo Verdugo COG
Szerlip, Don	South Bay Cities COG
Talbot, Paul	City of Alhambra
Tyler, Sidney	City of Pasadena
Wapner, Alan	City of Ontario

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Members Not Present

Adams, Steve	Riverside, WRCOG
Becerra, Glen	City of Simi Valley
Buckley, Tom	City of Lake Elsinore
Correa, Lou	Orange County
Dale, Lawrence	City of Barstow
DeLara, Juan	City of Coachella
De Young, Cathryn	City of Laguna Niguel
Dunlap, Judy	City of Inglewood
Fasana, John	City of Duarte
Gabelich, Rae	City of Long Beach
George, Gary	City of Redlands
Hernandez, Robert	City of Anaheim
Herzog, Peter	OCOG
Lowe, Robin	City of Hemet/RCTC
Miller, Paul	City of Simi Valley
O'Connor, Pam	City of Santa Monica
Pettis, Greg	Cathedral City
Ramirez, Rick	City of Norwalk
Roberts, Ron	City of Temecula
Smith, Greg	City of Los Angeles
Smyth, Cameron	City of Santa Clarita
Stone, Jeff	Riverside County
Sykes, Tom	City of Walnut
Uranga, Tonia Reyes	City of Long Beach

New Members

Voting Members, Not Elected Official

McCarthy, James

Caltrans

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1.0 CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLIGANCE

The Honorable Harry Baldwin, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:52 a.m.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None at this time

3.0 REVIEW and PRIORITIZE

4.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

4.1 Approval Item

4.1.1 Approve Minutes of January 5, 2006

4.2 Receive and File

4.2.1 State and Federal Legislative Matrix

MOTION was made to RECEIVE and FILE the Consent Calendar items.
Motion SECONDED and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

5.0 ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Final 2004 RTP/RTIP Amendment

Naresh Amatya, SCAG Staff, stated that Orange County had requested amending the 2004 RTP/RTIP to revise three projects. The first two projects are replacement projects; the CenterLine and the Yorba Linda Metrolink Station. The third project is revision of scope to the Foothill South toll road from the 4 lanes in each direction to 3 lanes in each direction. Both the CenterLine and the Yorba Linda Metrolink Station projects are considered Transportation Control Measures (TCMs), therefore their replacements have to be TCMs as well. As a result four TCM projects are proposed to replace the two replacement projects. They are:

- Bus Rapid Transit connecting Brea Mall with the Irvine area
- Expanding MetroLink service between the Inland Empire and Orange County
- Providing shuttle service between Irvine Business Center and John Wayne Airport
- Allow vehicles with 3+ passengers to travel for free on the Fast Track on SR-91

Mr. Amatya stated that the proposed amendment must meet several basic tests: 1) it must not jeopardize the conformity on the existing 2004 RTP/RTIP 2) the fiscal integrity of these projects has to be maintained 3) the public review process has to occur, and "CEQA" requirements need to have been met.

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All of these requirements have been met and documented in the final report that was mailed to the members of this committee as a supplement to this month's TCC agenda.

On December 1, 2005, the TCC approved the release of the draft amendment for a thirty-day public comment period. This period closed on January 6th. A public hearing was held on that same day. In addition, staff also had a meeting of the Regional Transportation Agencies Coalition, RTAC, to satisfy the requirements of coordination for AB1246. Two comments were received, one from Caltrans and the other from the California Air Resources Board. Both the comments were technical in nature and do not require any change to the proposed amendment.

Mr. Amatya closed his presentation recommending that the committee adopt Resolutions #06-471-3 and #06-471-4 to amend the 2004 RTP/RTIP as proposed.

MOTION was made to APPROVE adoption of Resolutions #06-471-3 & #06-471-4 to amend the 2004 RTP/RTIP. MOTION was SECONDED and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

6.1 Talking Points for SCAG's TCC on Regional Role in Infrastructure Decisions

Note: this was an **Emergency Item** brought forward by Councilmember Jim Aldinger, City of Manhattan Beach.

Councilmember Aldinger stated that Senator Dutton had introduced SB1165 carrying the Governor's proposed bond package. Ultimately the committee would see that the bill supports preparation of strategies at the regional systems level, and that project prioritization reflects appropriate phasing. The process for selecting projects rests at the regional level, not the state. The region has a formal process for applying performance criteria and arriving at consensus, as reflected in the Regional Transportation Plan.

The committee would like to see that the legislation calls for application of performance criteria at the transportation "system" level, not just for individual projects. Objective, system-wide evaluation criteria is essential to ensure that an appropriate share of funding comes to this region. The responsibility for applying these criteria should rest first with the region and then with the state.

Councilmember Aldinger then asked that the committee direct staff to provide this input in writing and that it be passed on as a resolution to Senator Dutton so the legislation will respect the regional transportation planning process. Councilmember Aldinger closed by stating that Senator Dutton would be willing to incorporate language to this effect if staff provides him with it.

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MOTION was made to ADD the Regional Role in Infrastructure Decisions item to the agenda. MOTION was SECONDED and APPROVED. There were two OPPOSITIONS, Councilmember Lou Bone, City of Tustin and Councilmember David Spence, Arroyo Verdugo COG.

6.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

6.1 I-710 Tunnel Option

Bob Huddy, SCAG Staff, reported on the 710 North Gap Closure between California Street in Pasadena and Valley Boulevard in Alhambra. He stated that staff received a request from the City of South Pasadena to consider an RTP amendment. South Pasadena is seeking this amendment to delete the surface option that is currently in the RTP and replace it with a tunnel option which is now the subject of a feasibility study under way at MTA. The study is not yet complete. MTA hopes to have it done by April.

The request raised a number of issues in the legal, environmental, technical and financial areas that staff needs to review in some detail before making a decision. Staff plans on bringing this item back with further information and discussion at the next committee meeting.

6.2 Overview of Major State Proposals: SB1024 AND Governor's Proposal

Don Rhodes, SCAG Staff, stated that SB1024 (Perata), The Safe Facilities, Improved Mobility, Disaster Preparedness and Clean Air Bond Act, provides about \$10.3 billion dollars in infrastructure bonding in the attempt to get it on the 2006 June and/or November ballot. The bond features under SB1024 are transportation, infill development, clean air, and water quality and flood issues. In his address of the State of the State, Governor Schwarzenegger came out with his plan that includes five separate bond measures to be placed on the June ballot. The bond proposal is embodied in two different bills, SB 1165, Dutton, and AB1838, Oropeza. The legislative proposals authorize \$6 billion in general obligation bonds to be put before the voters in both the 2006 and 2008 elections, which would total \$12 billion. Also, in the 2012 election, \$14 billion in revenue bonds will be provided to finance transportation programs.

There have been a series of hearings that have taken place in both the Assembly and the Senate transportation committees. There will be three more hearings through February 21st held by the Senate. The main action will take place in a conference committee that will take some movement by March to get it on the June ballot. This fiscal measure will require a two-thirds vote of the legislature. If this happens it will then get put on the ballot.

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Another related measure in the legislature is Full Funding for Proposition 42.

The '06-07 Budget proposes full funding of Proposition 42 which will transfer \$1.4 billion from the General Fund (GF) to transportation programs, including transit and highway projects and services. The budget also proposes an early repayment of a portion of the 2004-05 Proposition 42 loan (currently due to be repaid in '07-'08) in the amount of \$920 million. This early repayment combined with the full funding of the base transfer will provide an additional \$2.3 billion for transportation in 2006-07.

Additionally, the Governor proposes a Constitutional Amendment to "firewall" Proposition 42 by eliminating the current ability of the Governor and Legislature to suspend Prop. 42 and, thus, protect these funds for their intended uses in transportation.

7.0 MAGLEV TASK FORCE REPORT

None at this time

8.0 CHAIR REPORT

None at this time

9.0 STAFF REPORT

Naresh Amatya, SCAG Staff, stated that SAFTEA-LU establishes a new highway safety improvement program and one of the requirements of the program is the responsibility to the state agencies, in this case Caltrans, to develop. Caltrans will be holding two summits to solicit input from the stakeholders. One of the summits is in California on March 9, 2006 at the Doubletree Hotel in Ontario. Mr. Amatya said he would e-mail the committee the information he received from Caltrans.

Nancy Pfeffer, SCAG Staff, stated that several months ago there was a trip to Washington D.C. to work on developing a Memorandum of Understanding at the federal, state, and local level expressing the intent of all these agencies to collaborate on developing a solution for the goods movement problems in Southern California. Last week, January 23rd, staff had a follow-up trip to Washington D.C. to meet with various federal departments on a draft MOU. Staff received approval from all the departments to proceed with the development of the MOU.

10.0 GOODS MOVEMENT TASK FORCE REPORT

Councilmember Art Brown, City of Buena Park, stated the committee was reconstituted to include more individuals especially in the environmental element. At the last meetings the committee had individuals to advise on the detrimental effects of diesel particulate. Last week the committee was presented with factual information on the number of cases as a result of these effects in the Long Beach area along the 710 freeway. At the next meeting the committee will address the MOU between the state and federal government and SCAG on Goods Movement and portions of the state budget.

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11.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None at this time


12.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Baldwin, City of San Gabriel, announced that the Cities of Alhambra and San Gabriel will be holding a Chinese New Year Parade on Valley Boulevard this Saturday.

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

The Honorable Harry Baldwin, adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

The next committee meeting will be held on **Thursday, March 2, 2006, at the SCAG office.**



Rich Macias, Manager
Transportation Planning Division